REMARKS

No new matter has been introduced.

The wording in Claim 18 has also been amended to avoid multiple dependency.

New Claim 19 is also presented for consideration.

Early and favorable consideration with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

These changes have been made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as amended on November 7, 2000. A marked-up version of Claim 18 indicating the change is enclosed with this Preliminary Amendment.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: Chilliam C'LowonD, RN 30588, for

Platon N. Mandros

Registration No. 22,124

P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404 (703) 836-6620

Date: November 27, 2001